

From: [Jay, Michael](#)
To: [Michael Jay](#)
Subject: FW: Clarification on the Approval Process for Regulatory Application of the AERMOD Modeling System Beta Options
Date: Monday, December 14, 2015 8:18:00 AM
Attachments: [AERMOD Beta Options Memo-20151210.pdf](#)

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From: Wayland, Richard
Sent: Thursday, December 10, 2015 3:33 PM
Subject: Clarification on the Approval Process for Regulatory Application of the AERMOD Modeling System Beta Options

Regional Office Air Directors and Air Program Managers,

Please find the attached memorandum, Clarification on the Approval Process for Regulatory Application of the AERMOD Modeling System Beta Options, that discusses the appropriate process for the approval of the AERMOD Modeling System with the use of various “beta options” for regulatory applications. There has been some confusion amongst various industrial stakeholders and co-regulating agencies as to the status of certain beta options in AERMET and AERMOD due to their being proposed as future regulatory options through the recently proposed revisions to the *Guideline on Air Quality Models*. We want to ensure that it is understood that the use of any beta options within the AERMOD Modeling System changes the preferred status of the modeling system and requires approval as an alternative model pursuant to the requirements of Section 3.2 of the current 2005 version of the *Guideline on Air Quality Models* (Appendix W).

For reference, the memorandum is also posted on the EPA’s SCRAM website. The direct link is http://www3.epa.gov/ttn/scram/guidance/clarification/AERMOD_Beta_Options_Memo-20151210.pdf.

We have a lot of on-going Model Clearinghouse requests and actions with respect to the beta options in AERMET and AERMOD. Hopefully, the attached memorandum along with some soon to be resolved and posted Model Clearinghouse concurrence packages with several of your Regions will bring further clarity on the appropriate use and justification of these beta options. If there are any questions or further needed clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me or George Bridgers in my modeling group. As always, please feel free to share this information with your respective state, local, and tribal agencies and with any interested colleagues.

Thanks

Chet

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